THE DANCE-By J. B. Connolly

on the way," suddenly said this lad. "Some say she's in the bay," he added, when his preliminary seemed to produce no consternation. But the man at whom it was aimed was not unacquainted with the abounding jealousy of the male in this most primitive region of west Newfoundland, and also it

nothing affected his nerve. "Even if she is," he retorted now, what odds till she gets here?" and in doubling enjoyment continued to swing his buxom partner.

had ever been his secret pride that

But at midnight a young fellow in fishing rig came from the other side of the bay with news yet more positive and alarming. "Where's Capt. Powers?" "In a minute, boy, and I'll be with you," and to the assembled admiration

finished the reel. "She's to anchor below, and they've

been inquirin' of you, captain-you and the little Weasel." "Then it's time for me to go. But what d'y' say, Bess, another dance?"

"Surely, Bryan, one more," and in exulting triumph with this capture of the American captain she snapped her fingers to the fiddler, after which she accompanied him to the porch.

"And when will you be back, Bryan? For of course 'twill be a small matter for you to slip the cutter and away as you've done a score o' times before. When will you be back?" "I'll be back for a dance this night

And, mind you, keep one for 'Ay, boy, and more than one," and

they kissed and parted. In his little schooner Bryan to es cape the cutter, was forced to crowd into the Gulf of St. Lawrence by the north shore of the bay. Once there he would have liked to lay his course for the Magdalen Islands, which lay 200 miles or so to the west and south; but now what with the approaching morn and the attendant light, he dared not cross the open water at the mouth of the bay. The cutter's glasses were al-together too far reaching, even if they ere not informed by jealous swains as to the likeliest direction to find him. So he decided to head northward, to hug the coast until such time as i might be safe to swing out into the broad gulf, and so on southerly to the Magdalens. This he the more readily cided to do because on the north coast were loopholes of escape—little harbors of refuge wherein a bold man might to and hide from troublesome cutters that could steam against the wind.
"And speaking of Bay of St. Johns, Wallace"—Bryan was addressing the cleverest of his crew—"a good hundred

You make it and I'll find a hiding place where a whole navy of blood-hounds wouldn't smell us, captain." "Well, Bonne Bay it is."

niles it is, but suppose now we could

"And here's the vapor coming, cap-tain—to hide us from the cutter." "Mm-yes, Wallace-but hides her

They were debating that question then when, the white haze lifting and rolling away, they made out the smudge of smoke astern. Far away it was then, but not to be doubted.

"The cutter, captain?" smoke she can surely make out our sail. Here's where the vapor would help, Wallace, and bear out your argu-"Ay, captain. 'Twas like a wall, that

"Like a wall, yes, Wallace, or like a curtain hiding the stage. But now"he drove his arm through the air as if it were solid substance opposing him-"now the wind's our only hope. Blow ve devils, blow!" and after his fashion

allowed his mind to run where it would. "Man, but the breeze I had once in the Bering See, and a cruiser ten times the size of that cutter after us! Out of the fog she came like a black some thing throwing off a white sheet. All black she was except for a gold stripe along her run and 10,000 horse-power. We knew her and she knew us, and we a little vessel with only the wind to save her-and us. But that's not getting away from this fellow, is it? Sway up everything now."

And while they heaved on the halyards and gigs he sang defiantly:

'Oh, beating up the coast on a blowy winter's day—
From the fog we raised a cutter of his
Kinglet's o'er the way. She fires a shot across of sayin' Belay!

We ranges fair across her bows, and then —we bore away.

Southeast by east for Matakan, and, oh,
the wind it blew!

As out before the howling gale our little vessel flew.

The sea was such, the wind was such,

he didn't fire a shot,
Because they didn't dare to wear, but—
he must've swore a lot!
"'Oh, flyin' down the coast like——'

another heave or two on the main'l,

He trained the glasses on the fas looming steamer astern. "I told 'em I'd wreck the jack before I'd let any Gover'ment vessel get her, and I will. Damn 'em anyway, all cutters and cruisers! And if she is wrecked—" 'Wrecked? Then it'll be mixed drinks, skipper."

Bryan grinned. "It cert'nly will And high priced-there's stuff below cost \$10 a quart."

"H-m-m-" Wallace was drawing the end of his tongue across his lower lip. "I've been thinking, Skipper, that we'd all be better men if we had a sup of A shame, don't you think yourself, Skipper—so much of it down below, and we like to lose it all soon and never a sup on so cold a mornin'?"
"Well, I don't know but you're right. Wallace. Off with the hatch, and the first case you find bring on deck-the first case, mind."

They tossed one up. "Let's see now. What'd you get? You cert'nly drew a good one. That's the most expensive stuff in the hold."

"Ay, Skipper, we know'd it when we stowed it." Wallace grinned widely is it every man a bottle to himself.

"One bottle, no more; but no stopping to drink it all now. One swallow now and then; stand by, for I see that Bonne we'll never make, though this breeze is all that a big ship could ask

breeze."
"And yet a grand boat of her tonnage,

Skipper—quick to handle."
"I know that, and a good thing for where I think I'll put her-Hell's Harbor, do they still call it, just ahead? That was the name when I was last here, five years ago."
"Ay, sir, and hell it is yet to make on

"All the worse for whoever is behind

She'll do. We'll make her do. Stand ready now. Heave those bottles over or hurry up and empty. The standard ready now. or hurry up and empty them-one or

the other."

"Will you be needing a pilot, Skipper?" asked Wallace. "'Cause if you do——"

"Cause if you billows of the broad gulf were now

"Why a pilot? Even if I couldn't re- breaking, mounting white to the bald us. And worse yet if men brought up member, it's easy made, that road crests almost,

NTO the middle of the dance some-body threw what was meant for a bombshell. "They say the cutter's on the way," suddenly said this lad.

for. Fifty tons more to her now and tons more there'd be damn little turning out of the road then and that lad so bold with his guns would never get near conditions that such as the conditions of the road then and that lad so both the conditions of the road then and that lad so both the road then are represented the road then and that lad so both the road then are represented the road the

It lacked an hour of sunset. "Plenty

would have taken but small comfort. "But that lad behind won't come in so easy, steam power though he has," he commented, and by way of defiance waved an arm toward them. "And once within, I'm blessed sure he'll feel even less comfortable, especially when he comes to turn the Elbow—if he ever

Inside the entrance they drove through a little harbor of quiet water, where the jack might have lain comfortably if it were not for the pursuing cutter.

The only passage for them out of south side of the bay it was necessary to go by way of the Elbow. The bay was trawls or net, but, expert and venturesome as they were, when they desired to reach one side of the bay from the

Devil's Claws the natives called them, and never did they suggest a more wicked end to whoever might approach them than now in this westerly gale, which, pressing in from the gulf, whistled as it forced its way through the narrow entrance, and further in, where there and the narrowing of the passage now the jack was, tore up the sea until will be enough for her. She won t come

"The breeze is making this devil nerv-ous," he said. "See him open and close can't get here. Plemy of good Hell's Harbor was through the north entrance, and to reach that from the be something doing for him soon"—and be something doing for him soon"-and gen'rally not running long chances, cer. just then a fresh squall tearing the water wide open-"and now see sometimes used by fishermen to set It's teeth, not claws, now-look! He opens his mouth and laughs, and you can see his gums and then the teeth close again and-m'm-they'd grab us other, the north from the south or vice in a minute and chew us up and spit versa, they usually preferred to make us out. He wouldn't stop to swallow us, the passage outside rather than attempt | not him-but spit us out-dead men all,

certainly witts. But it's blood, he wants. But look astern! They looked and saw the cutter how inside the entrance, feeling her way

cautiously. "She'll never come this far.
The look of that little line or rocks the claws lay now bare and again all far enough to examine any Elbow, but hidden by the upborne waters. Soon it'll be about ship and most care. The peril of the moment could not ful in the turning, with the engine room dull Bryan's easily stirred imagination. can't get here. Plenty of good those Government boats, but tainly not just for devilment. However things turn out their pay envelopes come at the end of every month regu-

"Ay, they gets their wages, captain, but we has to earn ours first.

"That's it. And right here's where we'll earn—or lose—ours, now." The jack was nearing the Steady where she would have to make what was practically a right after which she would have to into the wind like a top. And everything would need to be done with extreme rapidity. Then when she but ready to come about she would have to be given her head; and the away with her on the new cours was practically at right angles entering stretch

With the wind as it was the with the cutter making a need rying. Bryan knew that he won ecessary to keep her under fu way and only to hold her up her at the critical point, and would have to be as one checks horse. For if she ran by but a or slid off as sheets were haule was up on the rocks with her and end for themselves.

One of the crew after Bryan's face was moved to ask she make it, d'ye think, captain?

He saw what they needed. "And shouldn't we make it? A quick hand little vessel and still light ensee, why not?" And almost gayly dre her up, with the freshly ence crew to the sheets. Without a slack he let her tear on, until th turned half round to look at "Trust me," he called, and they strung but trusting, stood ready

Not until the spray from the sur of the dreaded lee line of rock coming over her bow and the hought she surely was about to did he give the word. Bryan himse had the wheel then. "In sheets

They hauled like demons, "Fi and they snapped the half hitch "Now pay out!" and again!" he called, and again like men awaiting the starter's pis crouched to the sheets. snapped Bryan, and in they again like demons. "When I say 'Hold!' see

hold," warned Bryan. "Ay, sir."
"Now-hold!" and hold they did

fast, and down the forearm bow tore the little jack. An ute of fair running and she w "We played in luck." Bryan, and gazing back cu the bent line in his wake and t whereon the ceaseless white never allowed the moss to fa imagination was off again. horses-mad white horses runn Lord help what they stamp un-But where's our cut weighs from eight to ten ounces. It is it, some use salt, vinegar, clive oil, peptiful at that. The pears sell readily at neither acid nor sweet. It contains a per or spice, and some eat it raw. It me the glasses and we'll hav \$6 a dozen at times. Mr. Woodworth H'm-there she is, going to an high per cent. of vegetable fat—more is a fruit that may be served in innu-than that contained by any other merable ways, all of which are good. in most any market for 50 cents a dozen. Afraid, by the Lord, to go way she came till it's broad cado can be propagated the fruit can be sold at 50 cents a dozen and the further on this hunt tothat don't mean we don't go growers will be able to compete with the orange growers, for the Mexican variety of avocado is less susceptible to her, Wallace, in the night?

"That I can cantain ' "Then take her, boy. the waved a triumphant lights and the dim hull by! And now, fellows gulf and across to the Mas go while that lad's thinking hid away in here." And w treme gayety he sang it ago

Government and State horticul-'Oh, flying down the coast 1 tial ghost, And the howlin' west-nor's a-worryin' us the most-Oh, meet me up at Matakar party there,

O Bess o' Bay of Islands rose in her hair!"

At an hour that should h CPEAKING of dollar dinners and them clear daylight the W other democratic economies of of the northern entrance the socio-political activities of bor, but the vapor of a fr the present era," said a distinguished morning lay like a black looking person, "it is interesting to note barely undulating sea. Sh the cost of a dinner given in the city been far off shore then we of New York to President Washington to the Magdalens. and the French Minister several years even flatter than the se before Col. Bryan had flashed his dollar dinner upon the eager world of demomerely bobbing up and dow ing no more progress th cratic retrenchment and reform. This mother's rocking chair dinner is reported in Col. Roosevelt's autobiography, one of his ancestors, Isaac Roosevelt, being a member of the kitchen floor. Bryan, no longer gay, w.

quarter; the men, gloomy,

her waist, and being less

than their leader swore in

120 dinners served at a cost of 148, say \$240, which is \$2 a head, or double Col. Except for their audible and their footfalls on the not a sound echoed over Bryan's dinner standard. But that Abruptly Bryan halted amount was for plain food only. In adand first cocking an ear dition there were served 135 bottles of bent it to the rail. A le Madeira, more than a bottle per diner, to the south and he shook costing \$270, with thirty-six bottles of yet it came after a thou port, costing \$54, and beer and punch "Mind, whatever happens costing \$90 more, or \$414 for drinks; are all right. I signed y trip, as the papers will "The merest glance at this collection of yours I had contraban-

At that they began to f uneasy; but that they we apprehensive was made cl out of the fog came the s Ding-ding, ding-ding, bells, 7 o'clock. On the heavy consumers of the bean, or it was Newfoundland it was "A somewhat suspicious item in the vessels that marked the

bill is one of \$22.50 for sixty broken And then, exactly as i wine glasses, or one glass for every other diner. Still more suggestive of previous day, the vapor up to the sky. Not a violent hilarity is an item of \$15 for away lay the cutter. One eight cut glass decanters broken. That sounds almost like a riot and it is hoped commander to grasp the they saw him pull the en that it occurred long after the immortal George had gone home and to She dropped easily alor commander over the rail "However, 'de mortuis nil nisi bonum,

"Come aboard," he sai ance of the victor spe "Thanks," answered 1 know but what we w

fellows. Not until he reached cutter did he speak ful been looking over the captive vessel and from looked to where the re-Islands lay. And then sigh he said it: "Bebest, but we lingered

"In all, the banquet to the President



He trained the glasses on the fast looming cutter astern. "I told 'em I'd wreck the jack before I'd let any Gover'ment vessel get her, and I will. Damn 'em, anyway!"

on salling craft don't dare to go further | There's the deep water and there's |

empty bottles. "To hell itself!"

than steamboat hands. You'll follow the rocks, both marked better than if me, lads?"

"Ay, Skipper!" They waved the half in the world was there. Where a surf all the red and black Gover'ment buoys like that shows only blind men would Bryan could easily make out the cut-ter then. "Four miles to our three she's coming. Oh, man, but with fifty Lord, no; but a strong hand to the

the wheel and eyes on Bryan, who, in turn, stood at the fore rigging with eyes only for the channel ahead. It was a between quarter and bare rocks Bryan | ten feet above the surface of the sea.

Tearing past the granite entrance; the Elbow, even in moderate weather. | crushed and bloody-and our little veswent the little jack, with Wallace at | And now it was blowing a gale. dublous outlook, so much so that were ing heights. Some barely showed above it not for the narrow strip of green the normal level, others rose for perhaps

Now fairly inside, the jack was approaching a stretch of jagged rocks which protruded from the sea for vary

The alligator pear tree is just now

claiming the attention of orchardists in

sel ground to powder. Oh, don't you wish you could get us?" He shook his

The crew was inhaling the leader's spirit. Would he "stop to take a few Bryan laughed. "Lord, but you're

If a few reliable varieties of the avo-

injury from frost than the orange tree.

The big avocado on the Woodworth

place stood a temperature of fifteen de

grees above zero in 1913 and never

The Woodworth alligator pear tree

is one of the greatest curiosities in the

Southwest to-day. It is thirty-four feet

high and has a spread of thirty-five

tural experts make regular journeys to

the tree in order to take measurements

and compile data for bulletins on the

A Dinner to G. W.

auditing committee of the banquet man-

that is, \$170 more than for the eats.

very expensive grade of coffee.

"According to these figures there were

subject of avocado culture.

curled a leaf.

MOST VALUABLE FRUIT TREE

gest other fruits find the avocado easy

world, so far as can be learned, is an avocado, or alligator pear profit of \$3.206. The tree is enclosed to the tree and they will never be satisby a slat fence thirty feet high, which fied until I take them within the en-

Woodworth to maintain. the seed of an avocado that was growing wild in the highlands of Mexico Burt Rideout, a Los Angeles county nurseryman, planted the tree on his ranch, and when it was three years old he sold the five acre ranch to Mr.

Woodworth, a retired Wall Street broker. Nobody suspected that the tree would prove the money maker it is. The average alligator pear tree does not come into bearing until it is eight or ten years old. Mr. Woodworth's avocado began bearing in its fourth year. ing the fifth year it produced \$1,716 worth of fruit and bud wood. In its sixth year it gave up \$3,206 worth of fruit and bud wood, \$1,500 of which was derived from the sale of alligator pears at the rate of \$6 a dozen, and \$1,702 came from the sale of buds at

from ten to twenty-two cents apiece. Owing to the scarcity of productive avocado trees there is always a strong emand for bud wood, with which to bud young seedlings in the nurseries, and when it became known that the Woodworth alligator pear tree was bearing heavily there was a general rush for bud wood. Mr. Woodworth sold all the buds that he cared to take from the tree and then raised the price of buds to twenty-two cents each, in order to stop the demand, but that did

"I was afraid, for a while, that we were going to injure the tree by cutbuds," he says, "but I guess we didn't hurt it in the least. At any it is loaded with pears again. We took more than 1,500 pears from it prior to New Year's, and I should not be surprised if the total crop amounts to 3,000 pears, for the branches are filled with green fruit, which is hardly distinguishable, because it is nearly the same color as the foliage."

"That the tree bears any fruit at all tree, owned by H. A. Woodworth, is indeed surprising," he remarks, "for who lives on a five acre orange ranch it hasn't had half a chance since it at Whittier, Cal. The tree is insured made a reputation for itself. Every against damage by wind or fire with day throughout the year the crowds of Lloyds of London for \$30,000. During tourists who visit Whittier to see the the year 1912 it yielded its owner a sights come here to pay their respects the insurance company requires Mr. closure so they can touch the tree, peel off a little scale of the bark, break off Seven years ago the tree sprang from twig or take off a leaf, just to see what

it looks like. "Curious persons keep the ground around the tree trampled down so hard that it would be useless for me to attempt to fertilize it. In that connection I may add that fertilization, for avocados, is a waste of time and money. So

is sub-irrigation. "The avocado comes from the highands of Mexico and Central America where it gets little or no moisture from the surface soil. It has a tap root that goes straight down to moisture. In some places it will go down great distances to moisture. With such roots as that it is useless to try to introduce water and fertilizer from the surface.

"Another thing about the avocado is that it does not need spraying. It is more nearly free from pests and diseases than any other tree we grow in

The prize tree blooms in March. The crop begins maturing in September and continues to ripen until late in January. A curious thing about the alligator pear is that it is worthless if permitted to ripen upon the tree. The pears, which are light green in color, must be gathered when they have reached the proper size, and laid away in a dark place, to mature like bananas. When they become mellow they are ready to serve.



than that contained by any other merable ways, all of which are good. known fruit. Persons who cannot di-





High fence that insurance company compelled Mr. Woodworth to erect around his valuable avacado tree.

Fruit taken from famous avacado tree.

years since its introduction into this country. The first trees brought to the inited States came from Hawaii and South America. Nearly all of them died. The alligator pear from the Mexican highlands has proved to be the best, for the reason that it is accustomed to a high altitude in its native haunts, and it withstands the cool weather of the

Many avocados have been imported from Mexico and Guatemala, but only small percentage of them have proved to be profitable producers. Last year the progress of the avocado industry suffered a severe setback owing to the establishment of a rigid Government quarantine against the importation of avocado trees, buds and seed from foreign countries. The quarantine was made necessary in order to protect the industry from two varieties of scale "In all, the banquet to the Preside which seriously afflict the trees of the tropics.

of potables is enough to convince the most sceptical that grape juice was not a popular beverage in those days. Eight gentlemen out of the 120 had coffee after theirs and the cost of it was \$8, indicating that these gentlemen were

Southern States quite well.

or words to that effect. Further items in the report show that there were eight dinners for musicians, costing \$8, the real dollar proposition; ten dinners for servants, also dollar dinners, and that music and fees-did they call tips fees in those days?—cost \$40, while fruit and nuts added \$25 more to the bill, which seems a bit extravagant for this line of food, considering that hen

and the Minister cost \$782.50, which is not as democratic as it might be for At the present time two-year-old avo- 120 gentlemen, although most of them cado seedlings, budded with wood from were New Yorkers of the economic a productive pear, are worth from \$10 days."

dance, and now I'm aft ing to get another par No more than that w for him to be taken be (Copyright by the Nor